

The Sting

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec
Vol. 3, No. 1
February, 1990



Stinger goaltender Robert Desjardins has had an All-Canadian type of season in 1989-90.



Impressive sophomore Stefani Desmarais has helped the Stinger volleyball team become a contender in the CIAU.

STING FEATURE



Meet 1988 Olympian Julie Klotz
Page 3

WORTH REPEATING

"A Monday off from Paul Arsenault's practices, I must admit, was about as common as snow in July."

Mark Mahon in Germany
Page 10

GAME OF THE MONTH

**RONALD COREY
CUP
AT THE
MONTREAL
FORUM
FEBRUARY 9, 1990**

**Concordia Stingers
vs
McGill Redmen**

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THIS MONTH'S TOP TEN

ALL-TIME MEN'S BASKETBALL SCORING LEADERS

	YEARS	PTS
1. Ron Puskarich	72-77	3082
2. Craig Norman	82-87	2618
3. Gary McKeigan	79-83	2238
4. John Erglis	72-77	1801
5. John Dore	71-76	1785
6. Nick Arvanitis	86-	1682
7. Leon Bynoe	77-80	1478
8. Bob Brix	72-76	1416
9. Dino Perin	87-	1246
10. Michael Cohee	87-	1238

(AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1990)



Coming next issue: Concordia's most prolific scorer, Richard Laplante.

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1988 Olympian Julie Klotz makes Concordia the team to beat.

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Stinger Captain Sharron St. Croix and outstanding wrestler Mike Meekins.

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The Stingers may have their best team ever.

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The nationally-ranked Stingers hope to win the OUAA East.

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Meet rising stars Stefani Desmarais and Debbie Lanteigne.

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The Stingers young guns have played well this season.

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From Con U to the German professional hockey league with Mark Mahon.

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Thanks to CIRL, you can hear the Stingers live at every game.

The Sting

Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Vol. 3, No. 1, February 1990

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CONCORDIA CELEBRATES 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF STANLEY CUP VICTORY

It was ninety years ago this month that the Montreal Shamrocks, a team comprised of hockey players from Concordia (né Loyola College), won their second National Championship. With the National glory came the much coveted Stanley Cup.

The Shamrocks had been victorious the previous year winning their first-ever Stanley Cup. The Winnipeg Victorias had come to Montreal in February of 1900, in hopes of taking the cup away from the Loyola boys.

The western club came east with a formidable reputation and were heavy favourites to win the championship. One Montreal scribe stated, "Captain Harry Trihey and his Shamrock lieutenants never faced a foe that will be worthy of their steel and hickory than the one which is now speeding eastward with big physiques and stout hearts." That forecast proved very accurate.

In the first game of the best-of-three final, Winnipeg was victorious, taking a hard fought 4-3 decision.

The outlook was not very good for the Shamrocks. A capacity crowd showed up for the second and what many thought would be the final game.

Much to the delight of Loyola's fans, the Shamrocks fought back in the second game to win 3-2 and tie the series at one win apiece. The fans erupted and the enthusiasm carried over to the third and deciding game. An enormous crowd was on hand for the finale.

In a game that was later described as the fastest and finest every played, the two teams were evenly matched throughout the contest. With a few minutes to play, the teams were deadlocked at four.

Then, with only one minute remaining in the game, Shamrock captain Harry Trihey scored the winning goal. Trihey was easily the best forward on the Shamrocks, much like Richard Laplante of the present day Stingers. His stickhandling skills were excellent and his shot was termed "powerful".

Loyola carried on the tradition of playing great hockey but never managed to win the Stanley Cup again after their exciting victories in 1899 and 1900. The present edition of the Shamrocks, the Concordia Stingers, will play their version of the Stanley Cup February 9. The Ronald Corey Cup will feature the McGill Redmen and the Stingers.

Concordia may not have Captain Harry Trihey, Fred Scanlan or any of the other Shamrock Glory Boys, but they have a few stars of their own in the likes of Robert Desjardins, Rob Boyle and Laplante.

It's been 90 years since Concordia last won a national hockey championship, but the present squad will settle for the Corey Cup this Friday.

Beating McGill has that kind of effect on a Concordia team. The young Stingers will need a great effort to end the championship jinx. The Shamrocks are much too old to make a comeback. ■

Olympian Klotz makes ski team favourite in title hunt

BY LEANNE MURRAY

JULIE KLOTZ can now smile when she remembers her greatest moment as a member of the Canadian National ski team. At the time, all she could do was grimace in pain.

Two years ago, Klotz, a member of the national team for four years before retiring last year, won the Canadian slalom championship in Rossland, British Columbia.

Crossing the finish line after her second and winning run, she doubled-over in pain; not even able to stand up to look at the scoreboard. The pain in her lower back was too intense.

"I'd always said the day I wasn't having fun was the day I'd give up skiing."

Klotz, 20, was suffering from a chronic back condition that had plagued her from age 15 after she fell during a competition.

Her back had been getting worse. And it hit rock bottom that day.

"One of my teammates had to run over and help me straighten up," she remembered during a recent interview. "I couldn't even stand up."

Ironically, the injury nearly kept Klotz from enjoying her shining moment with the national team.

"On the morning of the race I'd already handed in my (racing) bib to my coach," she said. "The pain was just too much."

"But I decided that I couldn't just watch all my teammates from the lodge. I knew I had to do it."

Even if it was the hard way. "I couldn't even carry my own skis up the hill," she remembered, "and it was really painful using the T-bar."

But the determined Klotz persevered, coming home with the championship. "While I was racing, I just forgot about the pain," she said, pushing her long blonde pony tail over her shoulder. "I was just going at it."

Soon after her victory, Klotz

was forced to undergo a five hour operation on her back to fuse several of her lower vertebrae and remove a damaged disk.

The operation was performed by a team doctor who cut through Klotz's stomach muscles to repair the damage instead of operating directly on her back.

"It was a very unusual way of operating on a back," she admitted. "They went through my stomach to keep my back strong (for later competitions). Tell me I don't live for skiing, eh?"

Though now completely healed, the injury, along with a handful of others, including tearing the ligaments in her left ankle three times last year, led to her decision to retire from the national team.

"It was getting to the point where I was wondering when was the next time I'd be hurt," she said. "I wasn't skiing as hard because it seemed that every time I'd start skiing well, I'd get injured."

After being selected to the national development team at the age of 15, Klotz competed in races throughout Europe, Canada and the U.S., garnering a silver medal in a North-American Slalom championship in Ste. Agathe in 1985, and capturing another silver at last year's Canadian slalom championships in Nakiska, Alberta. She also finished 17th on the same hill at the 1988 Olympic games, in Calgary.

"I'd skied for so many years, it was like a task and no fun anymore," she said of her decision to retire. "And I'd always said the day I wasn't having fun was the day I'd give up skiing."

Not that she's giving up the sport completely.

The first year geography major is competing this winter for an already strong Concordia women's ski team - which won the provincial title last year.

"We were a strong team last year," team captain Rosanne Gamache said. "By adding Julie, we're going to be super strong this year. Her international racing experience is going to be a real asset to the team."

And should help Klotz win this year's individual provincial title.

She took her first steps towards that championship when she captured a gold medal in giant slalom at the first competition of the university circuit at Bromont Jan. 20.

"If she doesn't win it all this



Julie Klotz hopes to lead Stingers to the summit.

year," Gamache said, "there's certainly something wrong."

In fact, Gamache believes Klotz's racing times will be as good as - if not better than - all the men's times on the circuit.

"Her competition is going to come more from guys," she laughed. "She might even beat them all."

Born and raised in Ottawa, Klotz has been skiing since the age of two when her father, Trevor, himself a national team member for two years, introduced Julie and her older brother, Chris, to the sport of skiing.

She still remembers having to be propped up between her dad's legs so she could make it down the baby slopes.

"When I was really little," she said, "I never took skiing seriously at all."

"The first sign of frostbite and I'd be in the chalet playing video games."

"And when I was racing, my dad would be taking pictures of me, and I'd turn around to smile and miss a gate."

A far cry from the serious racer who has been dedicated to her sport from about the age of 12.

"Skiing has made me a pretty

Because even though skiing is a team sport, it's more individual, so you're always competing against your teammates. You always want to be the best there is."

Klotz is hoping for a top five result this February when she competes - as an independent racer - in this year's Canadian championships to be held at Mont Orford.

In early January of this year, she captured a bronze medal in slalom after travelling with Gamache to Flaine, France, to represent Canada in "La Coupe International".

The ski competition was mainly for ex-national team members from Canada, Europe and the U.S. who are now attending a university.

These competitions - along with the university season - will help ease the transition for Klotz between being a full-time ski racer, when she was on the slopes nine months out of every year, to being a full-time student.

"I was pretty depressed in November because the opening races (of the World Cup) were in Park City, Utah, and here I am sitting in a class," she said. "If I didn't have this (university) circuit, I'd be lost."

"But," she said, philosophically, "you can't live your life on a high all the time. It was time to get on with the rest of my life." ■

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23 STE-CATHERINE O. (LA MAINE)

Wrestling fortunes on the rise

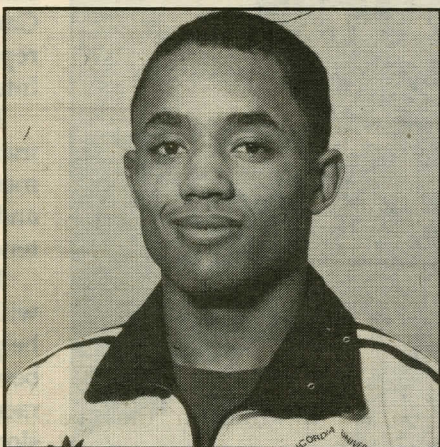
BY LEO GERVAIS

CONCORDIA'S WRESTLING team showed it is intent on winning back its Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union (CIAU) team title it lost last year by winning the team title at the Queen's University Invitational on the weekend of January 13.

Concordia lost the CIAU team title it had held for five years to York University of Toronto. But team member Mike Meekins (65 kg/144 lb class) says he expects someone different to challenge the perennial champs this time around.

"McMaster (of Hamilton) will be tough, maybe Brock or Manitoba. We feel confident though, and (Head Coach) Victor (Zilberman) expects a lot from us. He keeps us training hard."

Meekins, 20, has been training hard for a long time as a wrestler, five years to be exact. The Tanzania native was a standout at Notre Dame College in Wilcox, Saskatchewan (well-known for its fine hockey programme) and was the national junior wrestling champ in 1987.



The National Team's Mike Meekins

Last year, he finished second in the CIAU Championships, losing a controversial final match. He says he enjoys the individuality and contact of the sport but wishes more people took an interest in wrestling.

"In countries like Iran and India, it's a national sport with tremendous fan support. Even the United States has sold-out arenas for college championships. I think if more people came to see it, they would be surprised how fast and exciting it is."

The next few months hold a busy tuneup schedule for the Stinger squad. They have a meet February 4 at the University of Michigan. Two weeks later the Atlantic Championships take place, followed by the CIAU Championships in early March.

One of the problems last year was the fact Concordia had to default three weight categories out of twelve and qualified only nine people for the Championships. This year there are only 10 weight classes, and that should prove to be in Concordia's favour.

MAT NOTES

FORMER CONCORDIA wrestlers Mike Sullivan and Lawrence Holmes left for France recently to compete. They both came home with bronze medals against world-ranked competition. Stinger Wrestler Rob Dawson recently defeated National Senior Champion Mitch Osenberg. He will go after his fourth CIAU title this year. ■

INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (JAN. 30/90)

57 Kg	Rob Dawson (1)
61 Kg	Chris Villeneuve (3)
65 Kg	Mike Meekins (2)
68 Kg	Anthony Merlo (4)
72 Kg	Tom Rebello (3)
82 Kg	Dwayne Zacharie (1)

STINGER PROFILE

St. Croix leads victory quest

BY LEO GERVAIS

THE STINGER women's basketball team has struggled in recent years. In fact, in the last five seasons they haven't won

Sports Administration. The Rosemount native was an all around athlete at Vincent Massey High School, capturing Athlete of the Year honours from Secondary I through V.



Captain Sharon St. Croix (10) goes for two against Laval.

too many league games. However, this lack of on court success has not buoyed the enthusiasm of this year's squad, especially co-captain Sharon St. Croix.

The Stinger swing forward is in her third season with the team, after sitting out her first year of eligibility. St. Croix, 22, was an integral part of Vanier CEGEP's Lady Cheetahs from 1984-86 before enrolling in Con U's popular Exercise Science programme. After finishing her Bachelor's degree last year she has come back for a diploma in

Besides excelling in basketball as a guard, she was also a standout in track and volleyball.

St. Croix says this year's team is the most talented one she's been on, "We're bigger, quicker but most importantly our attitude has improved dramatically. We believe we can win now."

This newly acquired desire can be attributed to a number of factors, according to St. Croix. The first reason for the turnaround is head coach Louisa Zerbe, who she describes as, "tough but fair and a good

motivator." The second reason was the addition of Kathy MacDonald to the Sports Administration staff. Prior to her addition, says St. Croix, the basketball team was treated badly, and not given the attention or support accorded to some of the men's teams. But that changed. And St. Croix says MacDonald was the catalyst, "When Kathy came, the Athletics (department) got a lot better."

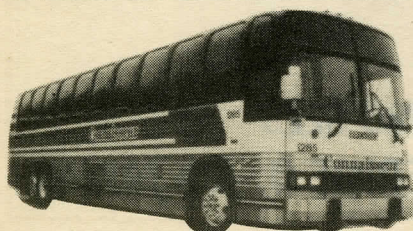
On a personal level, St. Croix says being a captain is quite a

"We're bigger, quicker but most importantly our attitude has improved dramatically. We believe we can win now."

different Page 3 challenge than other years, "The main task is to get younger players to understand that hard work and dedication are the keys to winning. The (losing) streak hasn't affected them since they're new and just having fun."

St. Croix cites a loss by 19 points to the University of Winnipeg as a major turning point for the young team, which has six rookies. Winnipeg was ranked fifth at that point by the Canadian Inter-University Athletic Union (CIAU), and the relatively close game showed St. Croix they were headed in a direction that would lead them to success.

"A lot more quality athletes are coming to Concordia now," says St. Croix, "and the athletics program is going uphill. And this year, I'm confident, we're going to surprise some people." ■



"Official Carrier of the Stingers"
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Stinger hockey team may be best ever

BY GEOFF BAKER

WHEN ANY team comes off a "perfect" season, it faces a huge problem.

Topping it.

After going undefeated in 15 league games before waltzing through the playoffs and on to a championship last year, the Concordia Women's Hockey team will be hard-pressed to duplicate that feat in 1989/90. In fact, they have already lost once—one game more than all of last season.

The defeat came on a night when the Stingers outshot the Laval Rouge et Or 52-14, only to be outscored 3-2. It was a shocking loss for Concordia, but one which head coach Les Lawton sees as being necessary for his club.

"When you win all the time," he says, "sometimes you need to be reminded that you can lose as well. We hadn't lost in so long, some of us probably thought we couldn't lose anymore."

Despite the setback, Lawton still says he feels the Stingers

will have little trouble in recapturing their title. "We deserved to win that game (with Laval)" he says. "I mean, look at the shots on goal. We just ran into a real hot goaltender and couldn't put the puck in the net. That'll change, we hope."

Going into the season, Concordia had lost a number of key players due to graduation. Gone are Therese Brisson, Nancy Moore, Lisa Morgan and Nathalie Hains. Brisson's departure should hurt the most. Described by observers as the "Wayne Gretzky of Women's Hockey", Brisson was able to dominate any game she played in. She was in a league of her own while on the ice, skating, stickhandling and shooting with an ability that was years before its time.

Morgan will be missed because of her hulking stature on defense, as well as for her immense popularity in the dressing room as team captain.

Nevertheless, Concordia has a wealth of returning veterans from the championship squad.

Combined with some exciting rookie prospects, observers are saying that this year's team may be even stronger than the one which took the title.

One of the returnees is sophomore Laura Leslie, who was second in team scoring last year, with 27 goals and 58 assists in 33 games. The 58 assists established a team record for one season. Leslie also had eight assists in one game, another record. Joining Leslie up front is All-Star Debbie Woods-Turner, third in last year's scoring race.

Maria Pia Chavez (18 points) and Laura Spiegel (16 points) are expected to blossom into top-calibre forwards this season after picking up championship experience in 1988/89. Michele Lapointe and Val Gaston are also back.

On defence, Johanne Bedard and Anna Landriault have been carrying the load as the only returning vets. They have had huge help from Patty Arnold, a highly-recruited blueliner from John Abbott College. Arnold's teammate from Abbott, Lynn-

Ann Mageau, has also played regularly.

In the nets, veteran Sue Prosser and rookie Marie-Claude Roy have combined to form the



Debbie Woods-Turner

top-goaltending duo in the country. Prosser had a 1.47 goals against average last year, while Roy was busy stopping

pucks for arch-rival Champlain College.

Completing the cast of newcomers are forwards Suzanne Lepage and Stephanie Ouellette who are among the leading scorers in the QWHL.

Although Concordia has lost once this year, their competition still hasn't amounted to much. For that reason, the Stingers hope to join the East Coast Athletics Conference (ECAC) in-time for the 1990/91 campaign. They have arranged several exhibition games with teams from that league in order to test the waters. Despite losing some of them so far, Concordia has only been defeated by slim margins.

They will have another test on February 2, 3 and 4 as the Stingers host the annual Theresa Humes Invitational Tournament. Two of the best teams in the United States—New Hampshire and Northeastern—will be participating. ■

Salon de Quilles
Laurentian Lanes

COMPLIMENTS OF

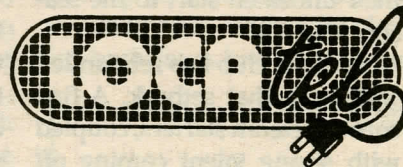
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"Good Luck Stingers"

FROM

McCain

Stingers reach for the top

BY GEOFF BAKER

WHEN THE ball was tipped off to start the 1989/90 men's basketball season, a new era was being forged for the Concordia Stingers.

The post-Doug Daigneault era.

After coaching the Stingers for 23 seasons, Daigneault resigned last spring in the wake of a major controversy which also caused the departure of rookie

They are winning, and winning big—minus the off-court distractions which plagued them under Daigneault. Well, almost without them.

Just before the Christmas holidays, outstanding recruit Trevor "Turbo" Williams informed the team that he was quitting. Williams had been benched earlier in the week after missing a practice. Once again, it seemed as if Concordia had been dealt a death blow.

dia to continue beating opponents without appearing to have skipped a beat anywhere along the way.

"We're not concerned with who isn't here," says Dore, whose team jumped out to a 10-0 record in the OUAA Eastern Division before losing a recent overtime thriller to Bishop's. "We're concerned with who is here."

Unlike last season, where the Stingers relied on blazing speed and three-point bombs to get them to the top, this year has seen the team's big men thrust into the spotlight.

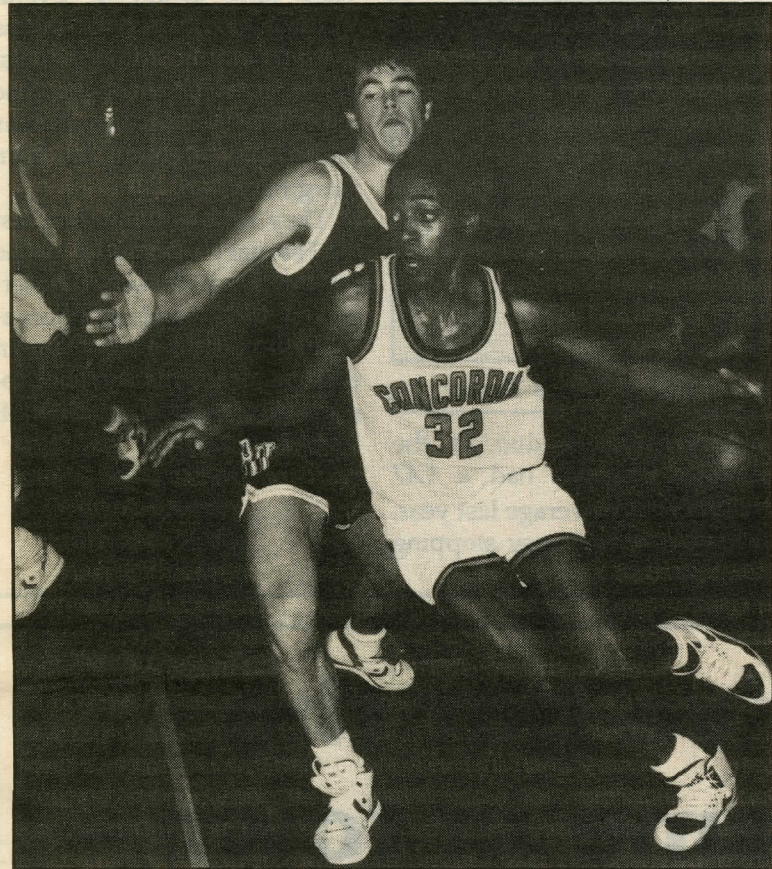
Fourth-year senior Nick Arvanitis and third-year veteran Dino Perin are the players Concordia go to inside, in order to snatch victory from the tentacles of defeat. Both men are tall, tough and in the best shape of their lives. Perin for instance, went from a weight of 235 last year to 220 pounds this time around. The decreased load allows Perin to get his towering six-foot eight-inch frame around the court faster.

When both Arvanitis and Perin are getting rebounds and converting them into points, the Stingers win. When they have trouble, as they did against Bishop's, Concordia has trouble too.

Another man the Stingers are counting on is 1988/89 most valuable player Mike "Silk" Cohee. While his physical stature is anything but intimidating to opponents, his quick moves and tenacious defense are. Arguably Concordia's best player during last year's stretch drive,

Williams, up to the point of his departure, had been a dominant force for the Stingers during their unbeaten start to the season.

Still, the club has rebounded well from that setback. A fine core of veteran starters, coupled with strong talent coming off the bench has enabled Concor-

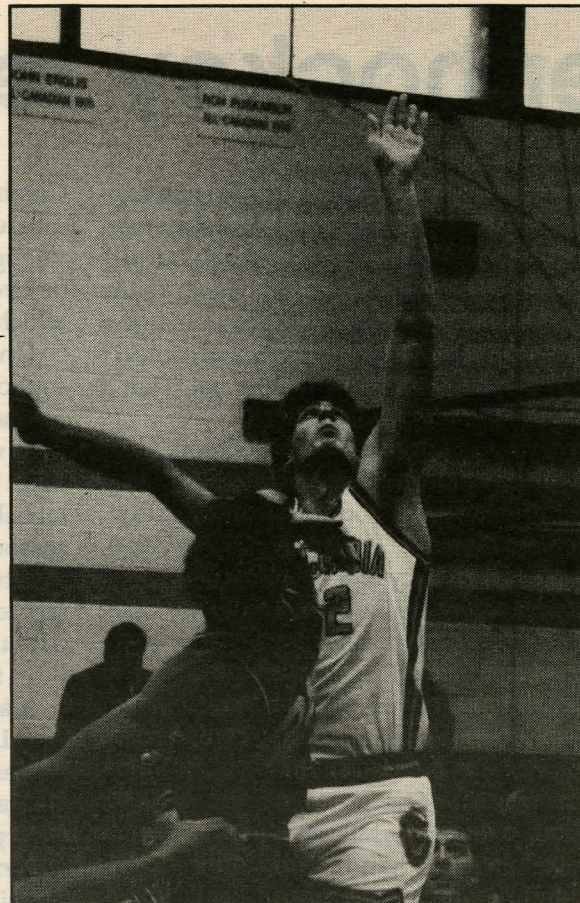


Stinger rookie Robert Ferguson (32) gets better every game.

stars Dexter John, Allan Cox and Leon Pierre.

At the time, experts were already forecasting the demise of Concordia's cage program. That however, was not to be.

Assistant coach John Dore stepped in to take over the helm and the Stingers quickly picked up where they left off last year.



Centre of attention Dino Perin.

Cohee's numbers have tailed off somewhat this season. The Stingers will need a Cohee at the top of his game if they are to repeat as division champions.

Completing the list of veterans in the starting lineup is fifth-year captain Mike Baker. After riding the bench for a good part of four seasons, Baker has finally earned a chance to start. "He's paid his dues, that's for sure," says Dore. "He's a very intelligent player. He can recognize defenses quickly and because of that, he's a valuable asset to this team."

The final face in the starting five belongs to rookie Robert Ferguson, a former member of the Vanier College Cheetahs. In three seasons with the St. Lau-

rent CEGEP, Ferguson rewrote several team scoring records and helped Vanier capture the national championship for the first time ever in 1987. With the Stingers, his high point totals are helping to ease the pain over the loss of Williams.

On the bench, people like the ever-reliable Ernie Rosa are there to fill in whenever Arvanitis or Perin need a rest. Others like Hugh Wallace, Charlie Mason, Raphael Tyrrell and Pat Sullivan know what the relief role is all about and have performed admirably. Add in former CEGEP basketball All-Star and All-Canadian

football player Ian Ployart and you can see why the team is winning.

Despite the Stingers fast start, Dore and assistant coach Harvey Liverman aren't getting too far ahead of their main objective. "We set goals for ourselves as a team during training camp," says Dore. "Our first goal was to win the division. Our second was to win the conference. Finally, our third goal was to work as hard as we possibly could in getting there. The guys will attest to that last one."

"They've never had to work so hard in their lives. We've made sure of that." ■

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Desmarais and Lantaigne lead Stingers to new heights

BY LEO GERVAIS AND
ANNA-KARINA TABUNAR

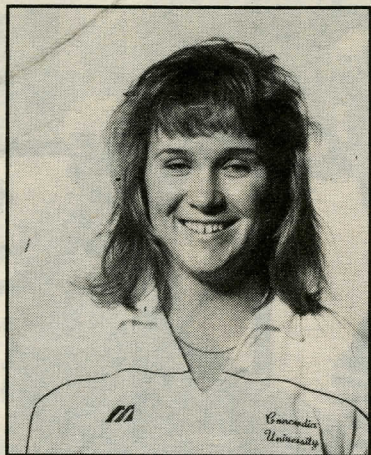
CONCORDIA'S VOLLEYBALL team is only in its second year, but they have improved so quickly that they have a serious chance to win the Quebec Student Sports Federation (QSSF) Championship tournament February 17. Two reasons for their rapid success are sophomore team members Stefani Desmarais and Debbie Lantaigne.

Many young athletes dream of playing on a university varsity team. But only a few have

"Teams like McGill would have trouble with some of the strong high school teams in the West."

the talent to realize it. Stefani Rollande Desmarais, 20, is a setter for the Concordia University volleyball team, and was twice named Most Valuable Player in the McGill and Queen's Invitational tournaments this season.

The Victoria, B.C. native originally emigrated to Quebec



Stefani Desmarais

to study in Concordia's Commerce program. "I wasn't even aware Concordia had a volleyball team." She was quickly recruited by head coach Melanie Sanford to play on the 12 woman squad.

Desmarais says she loves Montreal and its French culture, but "its volleyball scene was a disappointment." She added that, because the game is still in its development stage in Eastern Canada, the level of competition is not as challenging as it is in the western provinces.

"Out west, they start playing (volleyball) in grade school, and the stands are always packed. There's so much support and playing on a university team is considered prestigious," she says. "It's different here. Teams like McGill would have trouble with some of the strong high school teams (out west)."

Volleyball in Quebec gains

little support financially or otherwise, so most players are involved for the simple love of the game. Sanford, a former captain of the national champion University of Saskatchewan Huskies, is trying to improve that situation. She is developing a feeder system with various high schools and CEGEPs in Quebec to bolster the fledgling sport, much like they do out west. She has also brought what Desmarais calls the "western style of coaching" to Quebec, which is characterized by intense practices, tough off-season training, and a generally more serious commitment to the varsity sport.

Desmarais' career in competitive volleyball began in the fifth grade. She attributes her skill to this early training, but her genes may be another contributing factor. The youngest of six athletic children, Desmarais' father was captain of the Canadian Air Force volleyball team and also played as a setter.

In addition to her studies and two part-time jobs, Desmarais devotes 18 hours a week to the team. But in spite of her hectic schedule, she maintains a B+ average.

Regarding her future in competitive volleyball, she thinks Concordia will be a powerhouse in the future, but has yet to decide whether or not she will play out the three remaining years of her university eligibility.

"I'd rather be here five years from now when the team is established. It's going to be exciting."

As for her academic career, she hopes to further her studies in corporate law at University of Victoria.

She will return to British Columbia this summer where she will weight train, play fastball, a variation of softball, and indulge in some beach volleyball.

ball. She will also send in her monthly training diary, which shows her progress over the summer break, to Sanford.

Debbie Lantaigne, 23, schedules her Leisure Studies classes early in the morning to be sure she has time at night for the grueling three hour practices coach Sanford and assistant David Tyler put the volleyball team through four or five times a week.

But the St. Hubert native has been smashing balls over the net

which finished third in the province, the volleyball team has had good showings against some top ten Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) tournament competition this year. A loss in the finals of the Queen's Tournament to Mount Allison was the most impressive showing for the team so far this season. Although there is no formal league in Quebec yet, the teams receive points for their finishes at the tournaments throughout the competitive year. The total points at the end of the season determines what their seeding will be at the QSSFs. The universities of Laval and Sherbrooke are the top two in women's volleyball at the moment, but Concordia has played well in some close losses to both teams this year. The winner of the QSSFs goes to the national CIAU finals.

Lantaigne has been working hard to improve her various smash shots, using a variety of spins and varying the force behind them. She cites the off-season weight training and coaching as the reasons for her improvement.

"Melanie makes us work. We do weights and aerobic work, and she is a great motivator. We all have one-on-ones (conversations) with Melanie once a semester and she tells you exactly where you stand and what your goals should be. It's a very encouraging way to be coached."

The women's volleyball team has three tournaments to tune up for and improve their seeding at the QSSFs on February 17. There is no doubt Sanford will have them ready. ■



Debbie Lantaigne

for years and hard work is no surprise to her. After starring at MacDonald Cartier High School near her home, she went on to garner two MVP awards at Champlain College in St. Lambert and was Concordia's Rookie of the Year last season. She says this year's squad is one of the best she's been on.

"We have talented players from all across Canada, and we're a very close knit team. I'm sure we will challenge for the QSSF title."

They certainly have the potential to do it. With eight players back from last year's team



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Young guns lead Stingers

BY GEOFF BAKER

A HOCKEY team's symbolic "torch" is supposed to be passed on gently from failing hands to capable ones. In the case of Paul Arsenault's Concordia Stingers however, the torch has been thrust, practically shoved in the faces of talented rookies struggling to mature before their time.

Yes, it's a rebuilding year for Concordia. The Stingers' 6-11 record after 17 games is well below the club's pace of last season, which saw them finish

these days, managing to look optimistic despite the fact that a playoff berth for his team seems to be slowly slipping away. For Arsenault, the panic button couldn't be further from his mind.

"I really believe that we have a much better shot at doing something this year than last," he says. "Right now, we've been playing some of the toughest teams around and we're holding our own. We're in a different league this year and the teams are a lot stronger."

This past summer, the Ontario Universities Athletics Association decided to switch from three divisions to two. As a result, the divisions became larger — making it tougher to qualify for the playoffs. Also, instead of constantly playing the same Quebec teams week after week as they did in 1988/89, the Stingers now must face powerful Ontario clubs more often.

This task wouldn't seem nearly as hard if Concordia had the horses to get them where they want to go. Instead of horses, they've got ponies. And while the Stingers' "young guns" have been proving they belong — at least on a temporary basis — nothing, but nothing takes the place of experience.

"Out of 23 guys on the roster," says Arsenault, "16 of them are first-year players. With the exception of Richard Laplante,



Steve Sonoski

third before being swept 2-0 by McGill in the division semi-finals. Still, the crafty Arsenault looks like a man who knows something the rest of the world doesn't.

He's sporting a tight grin



Stingers celebrate goal against NCAA powerhouse Providence College earlier this season.

others are all playing in their second year. That doesn't really make up for anything if you consider that most of the Ontario teams we play all have guys in their 4th years of university hockey."

According to Arsenault, the bumper crop of athletes he now has will begin paying dividends in the next year or two — when they'll be fully aware of their talent and a feeling of self-confidence starts sneaking in.

"One obvious advantage we have over last year is the sheer number of players," says Arsenault. "We have a lot better depth this time around. We have eight good defensemen and better backup goaltending. Our main weakness is experience though, no doubt about that."

Of the Stingers' "young guns", 3 of them were selected for an all-star game against the gold medal-winning Canadian Junior Team. High-scoring forward Steve Sonoski has un-

doubtedly been the club's best rookie, as well as perhaps their most consistent offensive player. "He's been great, no question," says Arsenault.

Other all-star selections included defensemen Pierre Bouthillier and Jeff Gill. Bouth-

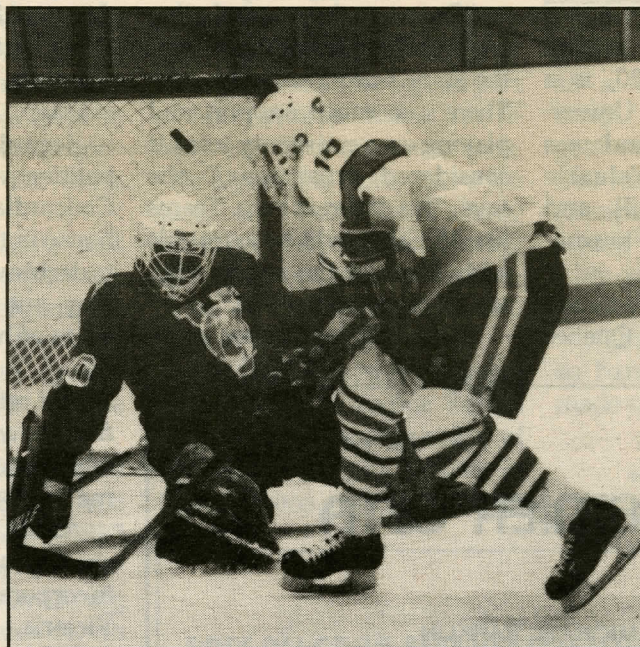
half of the year, when he was white hot, Arsenault says he will be "one outstanding college hockey player."

Concordia's offense lost a big man when record-setting centreman Mark Mahon packed up and went to play in Europe.

Still, Richard Laplante is having one of his best years as a Stinger and goaltender Bobby Desjardins has had an All-Canadian season. With veteran Mark Davidson banging away in the corners and stalwart E.J. Janiszewski anchoring a young defensive unit, the future appears much brighter than the standings may indicate.

At press time, the Stingers were holding down the sixth and final playoff spot in their division.

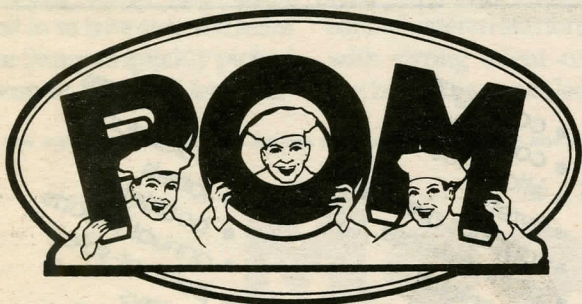
"In the first half, our problem was scoring goals," says Arsenault. "Our defense was good though. If we can put some pucks in the net we'll be alright. The top six make it. Right now I'd say we're in pretty good shape." ■



Ryan: "one outstanding college hockey player."

illier is the highest scoring defenseman on the squad while Gill has been very steady.

Other youngsters doing well include forward Scott Kerins and Pat Ryan. While Ryan's pace has slowed since the first



"Bread with a reputation."

POM D'OR

Délicieux de toute façon!

Concordia Stinger Rookie Scoring Derby

	G	A	PTS
Steve Sonoski	13	10	23
Stéphane Therrien	9	12	21
Scott Kerins	7	12	19
Marc Desmarais	8	9	17
Pierre Bouthillier	5	12	17

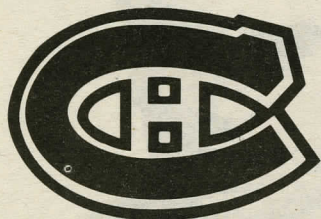
	G	A	PTS
Pat Ryan	5	10	15
Andrew Meth	2	9	11
Dean Delvecchio	4	5	9
Danny Desabrais	5	2	7
Fabien Perras	2	3	5

STATISTICS AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1990

HOCKEY DOUBLEHEADER

MONTREAL FORUM

FEB. 9, 1990



7:00 p.m.



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**CONCORDIA
STINGERS**

VS

**McGILL
REDMEN**



8:40 p.m.

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HOT DOGS



From Con U to Dinslaken: A week in the life of Mark Mahon

AS TOLD TO
TRENT TILBURY

EDITOR'S NOTE

Former Stinger hockey player Mark Mahon was Concordia's Athlete of the Year in 1989. While wearing the maroon and gold, he scored an impressive 168 points in just 97 career games. He was team captain for two years and was chosen to the All-Canadian team in his final season with the Stingers. That same year, he set a league record of 50 assists.

Not surprisingly, he was scouted by professional clubs both at home and abroad. At the end of his third year, a team from West Germany offered Mark the opportunity to play overseas. Mark accepted and now resides in Dinslaken.

This is a week in the life of a German hockey player, through the eyes of Mark Mahon.

I FOUND my way here through the graces of my good friend, and German hockey star, Mark Kosturik. The ex-Concordia player approached the Dinslaken team on my behalf while I was still in Montreal. A few phone calls later, I was on my way to Germany.

Dinslaken has always been among the top four teams in its division. Unlike some of the other teams in the league, Dinslaken has never had any serious financial troubles and is considered one of the more stable franchises.

Luckily, I am accompanied by another Canadian, Claude Dumas. He's from Thetford Mines, Que. and has seen two years of action in the International Hockey League at Fort Wayne.

Claude and I were talking about the differences between Canada and West Germany, not just the hockey, but life in general. We thought it would make an interesting story, so here it is, a week in the life of this Canadian boy in Germany.

MONDAY

The best part about West German hockey is that Monday is an official day off. A Monday off from Paul Arsenault's practices, I must admit, was about as common as snow in July.

I start off my week with a two hour workout at the gym. Because of the restrictions on ice

time, these independent workouts are vital.

On this particular day, Claude and I decided to drive to Verlo, Holland, about forty-five minutes away. At Verlo we could have an early supper and

"Wednesdays are special in Dinslaken. Every Wednesday for the past four years, Mr. Warner, the team's G.M., takes the Canadian players to McDonald's for lunch."

take in an English movie. It is really refreshing seeing an English movie, considering that T.V. is completely German where I live.

After the movie, we head home.

TUESDAY

Tuesdays follow pretty much the same routine as Mondays except we have a team practice instead of going to Verlo.

WEDNESDAY

I got up at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday. This is considered very early by West German Hockey standards. I went to the gym for my regular morning workout.

Wednesdays are special in Dinslaken. Every Wednesday for the past four years, Mr. Warner, the team's G.M., takes the Canadian players to McDonald's for lunch. Today was no exception, and the three of us set off to enjoy a few Big Macs.

At the restaurant, we ran into two other Canadians who play in Wesel; Henri Marcoux who hails from Montreal, and Jeff Job, a Kitchener native.

You won't be surprised to hear that McDonald's is the same here as it is at home. It's refreshing once a week though.

I spent the rest of the afternoon reading *The Hockey News*, which arrives two weeks late in

Dinslaken.

That evening we had a pretty easy practice and then we scrimmaged for about half an hour. It was a nice change because usually we do these German drills that are really tough, believe me!

After practice, I'm usually too tired to go out so I head home, have supper and go to bed.

That night, at 1:45 a.m., Mark Kosturik woke me up to brag that he was watching the Montreal Canadians play the Chicago Black Hawks live on television. I haven't seen an NHL game all year! Still drowsy, I mumble, 'Go Hawks Go! I'll see you tomorrow Kos.'

THURSDAY

Pretty routine! Not much exciting to talk about.

FRIDAY (GAME DAY)

Today just happens to be the day we go on our longest road trip of the year. We leave for Timmendorf, which is a six hour drive from Dinslaken. The long drives are very tiring.

Timmendorf is the second last place team yet they feature the league's leading scorer, Perry Fafard a native of Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

The arena is small in Timmendorf, with a capacity of 1,000. It is filled to the rafters with boisterous fans.

Timmendorf got off to a quick start with Fafard getting his 50th of the year. They scored again a few minutes later and the home crowd was going

wild. I scored a power play goal at the first period buzzer and we went into the dressing room down by one.

At the start of the second, I picked up a strong pass while shorthanded and got my second of the night. A few minutes later, Claude set me up in the slot and I managed the natural hat trick. I just couldn't miss tonight. I hope the sun shines down on me like that more often!

We ended up winning by a 5-4 margin. It was an exciting game. The fans showed their appreciation with hearty applause for both teams.

After the game, it was back on the bus for a long ride home.

SATURDAY

Sleep! I'm in bed until about 2:30 p.m. After a short workout, I relax at home listening to the Cowboys and the Giants (N.F.L.) on the American forces Radio Network.

SUNDAY

Claude and I go for a pre-game meal at around 1:30 p.m. We left early for the rink so we could talk to Marcoux and Job from the Wesel team. We try to keep each other up to date about what's going on 'back home.'

Our rink is packed tonight with 1500 plus fans. What a great atmosphere! The Dinslaken fans have come to cheer us on and we don't intend to disappoint them.

Wesel got off to a fast start and were up 2-0 when I scored 2 to tie it. My luck was continuing from Friday night's game.

After a hard-fought second period, we went into the third deadlocked at 3.

They scored two more and with 1:30 left to play, we dug deep. Our second line scored to bring us within one. The fans were yelling for a comeback.

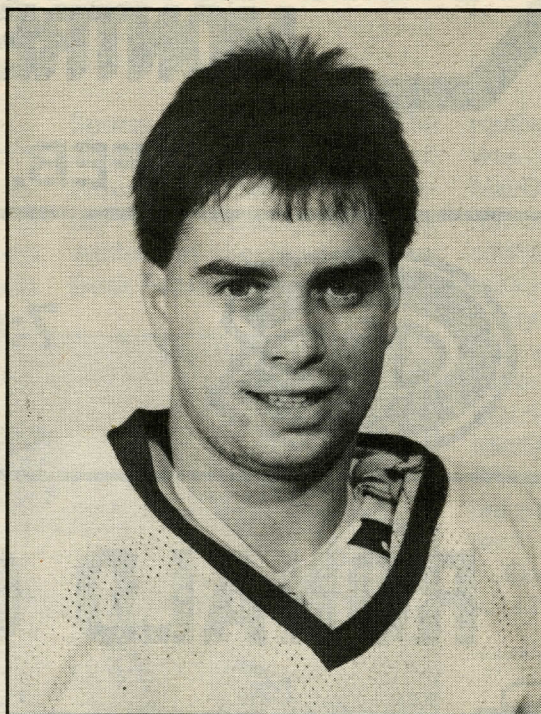
Nine seconds later, Claude set me up on the identical play from Friday night. The crowd went nuts. I thought the place would come apart. They wanted a win and were yelling with all their energy for just that.

With 51 seconds left, (and yes, every bit of this is true), I hit our team captain with a pass at the top of the circle and he made no mistake putting it home. The game ended 6-5. We had pulled off the comeback of the decade!

The crowd was totally out of control. They jumped on the ice and attacked us, yelling and screaming. It was incredible the way they reacted.

The party continued late into the night. By the time I made it to bed, the sun was already up. It was a great way to end the first half of the season, as Christmas was only a week away. ■

—J.P. LAURIN



1988-89 All-Canadian Mark Mahon

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CIRL live at every Concordia hockey game

BY J.P. LAURIN

A BLACK Jeep CJ crashes up onto the sidewalk in front of Loyola Field. It blasts through the iron gate and darts across the grass like a modified Subaru at the Baja 1000. Streaking past the stands, it flies down the hill onto the parking lot and screeches to a stop in front of the no parking sign at the front door of Concordia's Athletic Complex. Two men, one blonde and one with brown hair, jump out of the jeep and dart into the building, arms laden with small boxes and wires.

It is an hour before game time when they finish hooking up their cords and mikes in the press box. They wait patiently.

Fifteen minutes before the puck first hits the ice, they break into their own, slightly modernized version of Amazing Grace. They take turns singing harmony and lead.

Five minutes before face-off, their voices amply warmed,

they pop open a couple of warm Pepsis and empty them in a single gulp. Belching heartily, they have completed their warm-up and are ready to go.

"This is Jordy Stevens doing the play by play live from Loyola Arena where tonight the Concordia Stingers will host the Waterloo Warriors. Accompanying me in the broadcast booth and providing us with the colour commentary will be my good friend, Jamie Ross."

And this has been the opening for each of the Concordia men's home hockey games this season.

"We used to do both the football and hockey games a few years ago," says station Production Manager Rob Mendelson, "but somehow we ran into problems with the administration and were forced to quit. Then this summer, we were getting a lot of calls for scores to the football games so we decided to give it another shot. Jordy and Jamie volunteered,

the Athletic Department was very cooperative, so it was a go."

The move turned out to be a good one, as the station has had more callers and therefore, more listeners.

"The team of Ross and Stevens has played a big part in increasing our weekend audience," says Mendelson.

Being interested in pursuing a career in radio and television, Jordy and Jamie are benefitting immensely from the experience.

"I've always been an avid hockey fan and had entertained the idea of broadcasting but I had no idea where I could give it a try," states Ross. "As soon as I heard about the idea, I jumped at it," says Stevens, who also operates his own tinting company and attends Concordia as a part-time student.

"For someone who has never done this before, I would have to say that Jordy is exceptional. I really enjoy working with him," says Jamie of his colleague.

The pair hope to continue working together and hone their skills so that they may become the Danny Gallivan and Dick Irvin of college hockey.

"Dick Irvin must be what, 65 or 70 years old by now? They're going to need a replacement and as far as I'm concerned, Jordy and I are the men for the job," cites Ross half jokingly.

Maybe someday it will be heard, "This is Jordy Stevens and Jamie Ross coming to you live from the Forum in Montreal, where tonight, les Canadiens will be taking on the last of the 7 expansion teams, the Mil-

waukee Beer Guzzlers. Any thoughts on the game Jamie?"

"Yes Jordy, you know, I was just remembering our days back at Concordia when they first started discussing expansion and to be honest, I was pretty doubtful as to whether or not it would ever happen."

With a little luck, perhaps the pair from Concordia's CIRL will see the inside of the Forum Press Box for the Corey Cup, February 9.

If you can't make the game, then tune them in on 650 AM or 88.5 on your cable. ■

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